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**Reflection #2**

In the field of research, literature review is very important for researchers.  Literature review provides researchers with pertinent published written information on particular topics completed by scholars. It gives us an insight into topics of interest that we can use to address issues in our classroom. The topics are usually current and up-to-date and there is always a need for further research.  As pedagogues, we are catapulted into a field that is always plagued with educational issues, literature review topics help us to assess “prior research, theorists, and current instructional strategies” to address and resolve these issues.

            At the graduate level, we are expected to research topics which have been researched by theorists and practitioners to evaluate their outcomes and findings. We are expected to look at journal articles which are blind refereed and peer reviewed and find new terms used in the study of research.  The first day of class we were introduced to several educational databases which display several blind refereed and peer reviewed journal articles to support our research topic. These terminologies were clearly explained to everyone during class discussion. Peer reviewed shows the editorial board on the inside cover of the journal articles. It consists of people in the same field and credentials who review the journals. It’s reviewed and written by scholarly experts and includes citations, statistics, and charts. Unlike blind refereed journals, which goes through a stringent process and ensure a higher level of rigor. The person’s name is removed from the journal article when under reviewed to avoid any influence.  The journals can either be accepted or rejected and the information is factual.

            Literature review gives us insightful information from theorists who have completed extensive research on numerous topics. Their work allows us to support a topic, determine independent and dependent variables, create instructional strategies, and find an intervention. As action researchers we can choose a side for our topic which allows to debate or prove our points.  Literature review contains a powerhouse of information for the action researcher.